

XLII.—On a new Species of *Halmaturus* from East Australia.

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Halmaturus Wilcoxi (M'Coy).

Male. Fur long and soft, grey at the base (everywhere except on the breast, where the base is whitish), of a rich dark brown slightly grizzled with grey and black on the back (from some hairs grey at base having a white ring beyond the middle, and black tip), more uniform and slightly lighter on the shoulders, back and sides of the neck, and becoming lighter still on the cheeks, sides of the muzzle, and arms; the anterior feet, chin, a band from the nostril to the eye, and the mid line of the head darker brown; the apical two-thirds of the ears and the nape of the neck very dark rich brown; basal third of the ears, and a rounded space in front of the base of them, and a spot over each eye of a very bright rusty chestnut, chestnut, or bay; a very faint greyish band on hinder half of upper lip. The brown of the back becomes more rusty on the flanks, changing to the same bright rusty reddish brown as the base of the ears on the back of the hind legs, and also, though not so bright, where the brown of the flanks joins the greyish white of the belly, front margin of hind legs, underside of base of tail, and throat nearly up to the chin; upper side of tail dark brown, grizzled with black and white hairs like those of the back, but lighter in general tint at the base, darker towards the end, and whitish at the tip; underpart and sides of tail scaly and very sparingly set with short fur-hairs.

Female. Smaller and slightly paler than the male, and the whitish fur of the breast as grey at the base as that of other parts of the body.

	Male.	Female.
Length from tip of nose to tip of tail	3 feet 4 inches	3 feet 2½ inches
„ of tail	15 „	14 „
„ of tarsus and middle toe, including nail	6 „	5¾ „
„ of forearm and hand, including the nail	7 „	5½ „
„ from tip of snout to base of ear	4½ „	4 „
„ of ear from anterior basal ridge	2¾ „	2½ „

Locality: Richmond River, New South Wales. Collected by Mr. Wilcox, who forwarded a male and female to the Museum at Melbourne, as probably new.

This beautiful species most nearly resembles the *H. parma*,

H. Thetidis, and *H. Derbianus*, but is easily distinguished from them by the bright rusty red brown of the basal third of the ears, the space about their base, the spot over the eye, and the back of the hind legs, as well as by the greyish brown colour of the neck and fore limbs. The proportional measurements are also different.

XLIII.—*Notes on the Pronghorn Buck (Antilocapra), and its Position in the System.* By Dr. JOHN EDWARD GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., &c.

IN the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society' for 1855, when describing a pair of horns in the collection of the late Earl of Derby, I mentioned that the horn of the *Prongbuck* was "formed of agglutinated hair, that it was lined internally with a close velvet-like coat of short hairs, which were directed towards the top of the cavity, and that the edge of the base of the horn was furnished with a ring of hair." I observed that the "peculiarity in the internal structure of the horns of the genus showed, like the branched external form, a similarity to the horns of the deer, the hairy horns being the analogue of the deciduous velvet of the deer and the permanent hairy coat [on the horns] of the giraffe."

1. The peculiarity in the structure of the horn which isolates the Cabrit or Prongbuck from the other hollow-horned Ruminants seems to have been overlooked by the American naturalists; and the spoils of the animal are very rare in European museums.

The hunters of America stated that the Prongbuck shed its horns; but the systematic zoologists, who depended on the examination of the preserved skin and head for their facts, did not believe the assertion; and, indeed, some went so far as to deny the fact.

When the hunters at Fort Union said that the prong-horned Antelope dropped its horns, Messrs. Audubon and Bachman (Quad. North America, p. 198) considered it a sufficient reply to show them that "the bony part of the horn and the hard spongy membrane beneath were well attached to the skull and perfectly immoveable." They evidently had the deciduous horn of the deer in their mind, and could not conceive any other manner of shedding the horns, not foreseeing that the horny sheath might drop off the cores, which, if they had examined the structure of the horn and observed its internal fur, they might have anticipated as probable.

Cassin, in the 'United States Exploring Expedition' (p. 63), under *Antilocapra americana*, remarks, "Dr. Pickering, in his